THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) and (b) the medical facilities as per provision contained in the Central Civil Services (Medical Attendance) Rules of Government of India are being extended to the employees of the Samiti. The proposal in respect of retirement facilities like Gratuity and Pension, at par with the Central Government employees was submitted to the Governnmnet but has not been agreed to. Since most of the employees of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti have been taken on deputation, hence, Contributory Provident Fund (CPF) scheme has been introduced there. They have been advised to work out a suitable annuity scheme through LIC in lieu of the pension scheme.

Demonstration by DUTA

1771. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi University Teachers' Association (DUTA) demonstrated on 18th February, 2000 in front of the UGC's office in the Capital in protect against the University Grants Commission's autonomy proposal and to get universities and colleges ranked by the National Accreditation and Assessment Council (NAAC);

(b) if so, what are the main demands of DUTA and whether they have submitted any memorandum to Government; and

(c) what action Government have taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Promoting autonomous colleges and quality in higher education is part of the Govenment's higher education policy. A dialogue has been started with teacher organisations to allay unfounded fears and correct misapprehensions about autonomy and the role of the National Accreditation and Assessment Council.